Karl Goldstein 1376 Virginia St. Berkeley CA 94702

Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I chose LMI, rather than one of the large companies, as my ISP because it is run locally and provides excellent service at a reasonable price. They are willing to come to my house to deal with any problems that arise and are also easy to contact by phone. They are one of the few hassle-free companies I deal with. In short, they are a local treasure.

Broadband competition is essential for small companies like LMI to survive. I am a self employed person who needs my internet access to run many aspects of my business. Price hikes would put me at a real disadvantage. I also use LMI's phone service which has been far superior to AT&T and has saved my a lot of money.

It is neither fair nor good for competition in the industry to allow huge corporations to push out all the small, local companies that are providing the market with better alternatives. Please do not honor US Telecom's petition.

Thank you.

Karl Goldstein